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PATENT APPLICATIONS
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
KENICHIRO ISHIHARA) : Examiner: J. Phan
Appln. No.: 09/696,000) : Group Art Unit: 2872
Filed: October 26, 2000) :
For: OPTICAL SCANNING)
APPARATUS, MULTI-BEAM :
OPTICAL SCANNING)
APPARATUS, AND :
IMAGE-FORMING APPARATUS) : January 12, 2004

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LETTER RETURNING IMPROPERLY ISSUED LETTERS PATENT

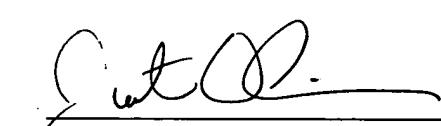
Sir:

Applicant received Letters Patent No. US 6,671,076 B1 referencing the above-noted application number. However, prior to issuance of the patent, Applicant filed a Petition to Withdraw Application from issue under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(2) on December 29, 2003, and that Petition was granted on the same day, before the December 30, 2003, issue date of the patent. A copy of the Decision on Petition is attached. Accordingly, because

the application has been withdrawn from issue, Applicant is returning the Letters Patent document herewith.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant
Justin J. Oliver
Registration No. 44,986

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
JJO/MJD:ksp

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